

Docket 1999CH020  
Serial No. 10/088,442  
Group 1751

### Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope form or tubular form by an exhaust process from aqueous liquor, comprising the steps of:

providing textile piece goods;

~~applying (P<sub>A</sub>) water-dispersible or colloiddally soluble polyamides containing hydrophilic polyalkylene glycol ether chains in the skeletal structure as wet-acting lubricants,~~

~~and then~~

applying a textile treatment agent (T) consisting essentially of

(T<sub>1</sub>) pre-treatment agents,

(T<sub>2</sub>) main treatment agents, or

(T<sub>3</sub>) after-treatment agents;

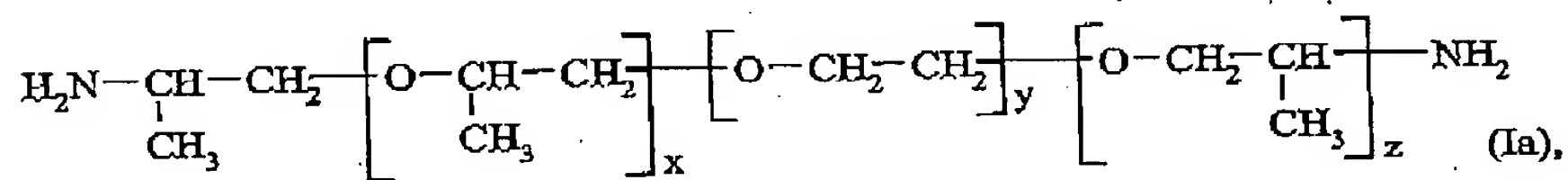
and

~~applying (P<sub>A</sub>) water-dispersible or colloiddally soluble polyamides which contain hydrophilic polyalkylene glycol ether chains in the skeletal structure as wet-acting lubricants,~~

wherein said (P<sub>A</sub>) is made from

(A<sub>1</sub>) aliphatic, araliphatic or aromatic diamines which otherwise contain no hydrophilic components or substituents,

(A<sub>2</sub>) a diamine of the average formula



in which x denotes a number  $\geq 0$ ,

y denotes a number  $\geq 2$

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$z$  denotes a number  $\geq 1$ ,  
and the sum  $x+y+z = 3$  to 100, with the proviso that  $y [\geq x+z]$  is in the range from  $2(x+z)$  to  $10(x+z)$  ~~and where the molar ratio of  $(A_2)$  to the sum of  $(A_1) + (A_2)$  is  $< 95$  mol %~~,  
and  
(B<sub>1</sub>) alkanedicarboxylic acids having 2 to 36 carbon atoms, aromatic dicarboxylic acids having one to three benzene rings, two of which may optionally be fused; or araliphatic dicarboxylic acids which contain 9 to 18 carbon atoms and contain one benzene ring or two optionally fused benzene rings, where aromatic rings may be bonded to further aliphatic, aromatic or araliphatic parts of the molecule, optionally via oxygen,  
~~and optionally monofunctional compounds (E) which are suitable for the end capping of the polyamides, and/or higher oligo-functional compounds (H) which are suitable for the branching of the polyamides.~~

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, where (A<sub>1</sub>) is a C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkanediamine.
3. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, where (B<sub>1</sub>) is an alkanedicarboxylic acids having 2 to 36 carbon atoms.
4. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, where  
(A<sub>1</sub>) is hexamethylenediamine  
and (B<sub>1</sub>) is adipic acid.
5. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, where (P<sub>A</sub>) is employed in the form of an aqueous, concentrated preparation (W).

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6. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 5, where (W) is an aqueous preparation or colloidal solution which is characterised by a content of (P<sub>A</sub>) and

(F) a flow-control agent selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol, butanediol, hexylene glycol, dipropylene glycol, butyl diglycol and glycerol,

and/or (G) a thickening agent selected from the group consisting of homopolyacrylamides, copolyacrylamide-acrylic acids, and partially saponified polyacrylamides.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 6, where (W), in addition to (P<sub>A</sub>), (F) and/or (G), contains at least one of the following components

(X) a non-ionogenic emulsifier or a mixture of non-ionogenic emulsifiers or a mixture of non-ionogenic emulsifiers and anionic or amphoteric emulsifiers or a mixture of non-ionogenic emulsifiers, anionic emulsifiers and amphoteric emulsifiers,

(Y) at least one agent for setting the pH

and (Z) at least one formulation additive selected from

(Z<sub>1</sub>) an agent which inhibits bacterial growth or a microbiocide

or (Z<sub>2</sub>) reducing agent or a bleaching agent.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, where (T) is at least one dye or at least one optical brightener.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, in the dyeing or optical brightening of textile material made from synthetic polyamide fibres, optionally blended with other fibres, in jet dyeing machines.

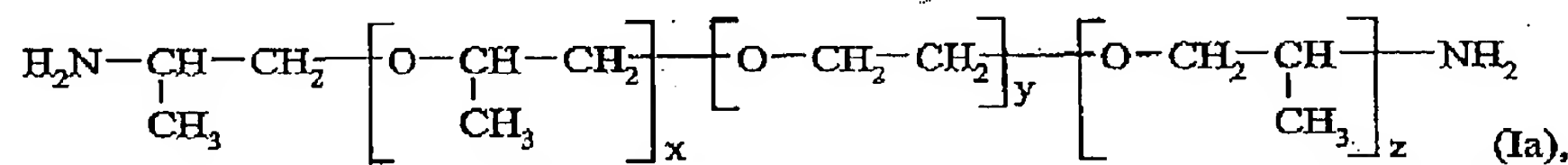
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10. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, in the dyeing or optical brightening of textile material made from synthetic polyamide microfibres, optionally blended with other fibres of comparable fineness

11. (Currently Amended) Wet-acting lubricant for the dyeing or optical brightening of textile piece goods in rope or tubular form by exhaust methods from aqueous liquor under conditions which would otherwise in the textile substrate favour the formation of transport folds or the occurrence of friction in or on the substrate, characterised by comprising a content of a water-dispersible or colloiddally soluble polyamide ( $P_A$ ) which is defined as in Claim 4 wherein said ( $P_A$ ) is made by the process comprising the steps of reacting ( $A_1$ ), ( $A_2$ ) and ( $B_1$ ), wherein

( $A_1$ ) a  $C_4$ - $C_8$ -alkanediamine,

( $A_2$ ) a diamine of the average formula



in which  $x$  denotes a number  $> 0$ ,

$y$  denotes a number  $\geq 2$

$z$  denotes a number  $> 1$ ,

and the sum  $x+y+z = 3$  to  $100$ , with the proviso that  $y$  is in the range from  $2(x+z)$  to  $10(x+z)$ ,

and

( $B_1$ ) alkanedicarboxylic acids having 2 to 36 carbon atoms

and adding during the reaction at the beginning of the cooling off period (F) a flow-control agent selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol, butanediol, hexylene glycol, dipropylene glycol, butyl diglycol and glycerol.

12. (Cancelled)

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13. (Currently Amended) Wet-acting lubricant according to Claim 11, consisting essentially of ( $P_A$ ), water and at least one of the additives (F) a flow control agent selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol, butanediol, hexylene glycol, dipropylene glycol, butyl diglycol and glycerol,  
— and/or—

— (G) a thickening agent selected from the group consisting of homopolyacrylamides, copolyacrylamide-acrylic acids, and partially saponified polyacrylamides

and optionally at least one of the additives

(X) a non-ionogenic emulsifier or a mixture of non-ionogenic emulsifiers or a mixture of non-ionogenic emulsifiers and anionic or amphoteric emulsifiers or a mixture of non-ionogenic emulsifiers, anionic emulsifiers and amphoteric emulsifiers,

(Y) at least one agent for setting the pH

and (Z) at least one formulation additive selected from

( $Z_1$ ) an agent which inhibits bacterial growth or a microbiocide

or ( $Z_2$ ) reducing agent or a bleaching agent.

14. through 26. (Cancelled)

27. (New) A method for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope form or tubular form by an exhaust process from aqueous liquor, comprising the steps of:

providing textile piece goods;

applying ( $P_A$ ) water-dispersible or colloiddally soluble polyamides which contain hydrophilic polyalkylene glycol ether chains in the skeletal structure as wet-acting lubricants,

and then

applying a textile treatment agent (T) consisting essentially of

( $T_1$ ) pre-treatment agents,

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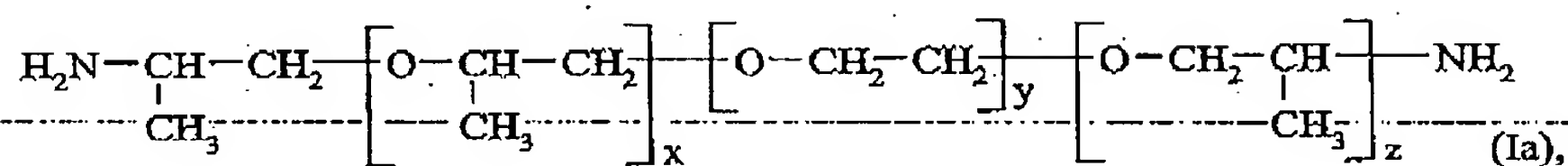
(T<sub>2</sub>) main treatment agents, or

(T<sub>3</sub>) after-treatment agents;

wherein said (P<sub>A</sub>) is made from

(A<sub>1</sub>) C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> alkanediamines,

(A<sub>2</sub>) a diamine of the average formula



in which x denotes a number  $\geq 0$ ,

y denotes a number  $\geq 2$ ,

z denotes a number  $\geq 1$ ,

and the sum  $x+y+z = 3$  to 100, with the proviso that  $y \geq x+z$ , is in the range from  $2(x+z)$  to  $10(x+z)$ ,

and

(B<sub>1</sub>) alkanedicarboxylic acids having 2 to 36 carbon atoms.